

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/043,328
Attorney Docket No.: Q68052

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A mobile communications system, ~~wherein mobile communications of a user terminal is controlled, said system comprising:~~
~~a user terminal; and~~
~~a communication limiter, which is operable to determine a location of said user terminal and identifies whether the location of said user terminal is within a use prohibition area where communications of said user terminal are not allowed, said prohibition area being a portion of a cell zone,~~
~~wherein said limiter transmits disconnect instructions to said user terminal when said user terminal is within said prohibition area; and for limiting communications of said user terminal in accordance with a location of said user terminal;~~
~~wherein said user terminal having comprises a disconnection processor for disconnecting which disconnects communications of said user terminal upon receiving said disconnect based on instructions from said communication limiter.~~

2. (original): The system defined in Claim 1, wherein said user terminal comprises:
a location detector for detecting a current location of said user terminal; and

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means for notifying said communication limiter of data about the current location of said user terminal detected by said location detector.

3. (currently amended): The system defined in Claim 2, wherein said communication limiter comprises:

a use prohibition area registration table for recording location data about a location within a said use prohibition area; where communications of said user terminal is not allowed;

a location information management table for recording data about a current location of said user terminal, notified from said user terminal; and

a terminal location manager for detecting said user terminal within said use prohibition area based on data on said use prohibition area registration table and based on data on said location information management table, and controlling such that said user terminal does not communicate within said use prohibition area.

4. (original): The system defined in Claim 3, wherein when said user terminal currently in a busy state is detected within said use prohibition area, said communication limiter instructs said disconnection processor in said user terminal to disconnect communications and wherein when receiving a communication disconnection instruction from said communication limiter in a busy state, said disconnection processor disconnects communications of said user terminal.

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5. (original): The system defined in Claim 4, wherein when it is detected that said user terminal currently in a busy state is approaching said use prohibition area, said communication limiter notifies said user terminal of the fact and wherein said disconnection processor urges a user to disconnect communications by issuing an alarm when said communication limiter notifies, in a busy state, said disconnection processor that said user is approaching said use prohibition area.

6. (original): The system defined in Claim 4, wherein when a user terminal currently within said use prohibition area originates a call to another communication terminal, said communication limiter notifies said user terminal that said user terminal is within said use prohibition area, without connecting said call origination.

7. (original): The system defined in Claim 4, wherein when a user terminal currently within said use prohibition area originates a call to another communication terminal, said communication limiter notifies said communication terminal, or a call originator, that said user terminal, or a communication destination, is within said use prohibition area, without connecting said call origination.

8. (original): The system defined in Claim 2, wherein said location detector detects a current location of said user terminal, using a global positioning system (GPS).

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9. (currently amended): The system defined in Claim 1, wherein ~~the a~~ function of said communication limiter is integrated within a home location register (HLR).

10. (currently amended): A home location register (HLR) in a mobile communications system, comprises:

means for limiting communications of a user terminal when said user terminal is within a use prohibition area where communications of said user terminal is not allowed, the prohibition area being a portion of a cell zone, in accordance with a location of said user terminal.

11. (currently amended): The home location register defined in Claim 10, further comprising:

means for receiving data about a current location of said user terminal;

a use prohibition area registration table for recording location data about a location within a said use prohibition area, where communications of said user terminal is not allowed;

a location information management table for recording data about a current location of said user terminal, notified from said user terminal; and

a terminal location manager for detecting said user terminal within said use prohibition area based on data on said use prohibition area registration table and based on data on said location information management table, and controlling such that said user terminal does not communicate within said use prohibition area.

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12. (original): The home location register defined in Claim 11, wherein when said user terminal currently in a busy state is detected within said use prohibition area, said disconnection processor in said user terminal is instructed to disconnect communications.

13. (original): The home location register defined in Claim 12, wherein when it is detected that said user terminal currently in a busy state is approaching said use prohibition area, said user terminal is notified of the fact.

14. (original): The home location register defined in Claim 12, wherein when a user terminal currently within said use prohibition area originates a call to another communication terminal, said user terminal is notified that said user terminal is within said use prohibition area, without connecting said call origination.

15. (original): The home location register defined in Claim 12, wherein when a user terminal currently within said use prohibition area originates a call to another communication terminal, said communication terminal, or a call originator, is notified that said user terminal, or a communication destination, is within said use prohibition area, without connecting said call origination.

16. (currently amended): A mobile communication control method wherein mobile communications of a user terminal are controlled, said method comprising the step of:

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limiting communications of a user terminal when said user terminal is within a use prohibition area where communications of said user terminal is not allowed, the prohibition area being a portion of a cell zone. ~~in accordance with a location of said user terminal.~~

17. (currently amended): The method defined in Claim 16, further comprising the steps of:

receiving data about a current location of said user terminal;

referring to a use prohibition area registration table for recording location data about a location within a said use prohibition area; ~~where communications of said user terminal is not allowed;~~

referring to a location information management table for recording data about a current location of said user terminal; and

performing a terminal location management wherein said user terminal within said use prohibition area is detected based on data on said use prohibition area registration table and based on data on said location information management table, and control is made such that said user terminal does not communicate within said use prohibition area.

18. (original): The method defined in Claim 17, further comprising the step of instructing, when said user terminal currently in a busy state is detected within said use prohibition area, said disconnection processor in said user terminal to disconnect communications.

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19. (original): The method defined in Claim 18, further comprising the step of notifying, when it is detected that said user terminal currently in a busy state is approaching said use prohibition area, said user terminal of the fact.

20. (original): The method defined in Claim 18, further comprising the step of notifying, when a user terminal currently within said use prohibition area originates a call to another communication terminal, said user terminal that said user terminal is within said use prohibition area, without connecting said call origination.

21. (original): The method defined in Claim 18, further comprising the step of notifying, when a user terminal currently within said use prohibition area originates a call to another communication terminal, said communication terminal, or a call originator, that said user terminal, or a communication destination, is within said use prohibition area, without connecting said call origination.

22. (currently amended): A communication control program that controls mobile communications of a user terminal by controlling a computer, said program executing ~~the-a~~ process of limiting communications of ~~a~~said user terminal in accordance with a location of said user terminal.

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23. (original): The program defined in Claim 22, further comprising the steps of:

receiving data about a current location of said user terminal;

referring to a use prohibition area registration table for recording location data about a location within a use prohibition area where communications of said user terminal is not allowed;

referring to a location information management table for recording data about a current location of said user terminal; and

performing a terminal location management wherein said user terminal within said use prohibition area is detected based on data on said use prohibition area registration table and based on data on said location information management table, and control is made such that said user terminal does not communicate within said use prohibition area.

24. (original): The program defined in Claim 23, further comprising the step of instructing, when said user terminal currently in a busy state is detected within said use prohibition area, said disconnection processor in said user terminal to disconnect communications.

25. (original): The program defined in Claim 24, further comprising the step of notifying, when it is detected that said user terminal currently in a busy state is approaching said use prohibition area, said user terminal of the fact.

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26. (original): The program defined in Claim 24, further comprising the step of notifying, when a user terminal currently within said use prohibition area originates a call to another communication terminal, said user terminal that said user terminal is within said use prohibition area, without connecting said call origination.

27. (original): The program defined in Claim 24, further comprising the step of notifying, when a user terminal currently within said use prohibition area originates a call to another communication terminal, said communication terminal, or a call originator, that said user terminal, or a communication destination, is within said use prohibition area, without connecting said call origination.

28. (currently amended): A portable communications terminal for mobile communications, comprising:

a disconnection processor, ~~for disconnecting which is operable to disconnect communications of said terminal when receiving external disconnect instructions from a communication limiter; based on instructions from a communication limiter;~~
~~said limiter limiting communications of said portable communications terminal when said portable communications terminal is within a use prohibition area where communications of said portable communications terminal is not allowed, said use prohibition area being a portion of a cell zone, in accordance with a location of said portable communications terminal.~~

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29. (original): The terminal defined in Claim 28, further comprising:
a location detector for detecting a current location of said portable communications terminal; and
means for notifying said communication limiter of data about the current location of said communications terminal detected by said location detector.

30. (original): The terminal defined in Claim 29, wherein said disconnection processor urges a user to disconnect communications by issuing an alarm when said disconnection processor receives the notice that said terminal is currently approaching said use prohibition area, from said communication limiter in a busy state.

31. (original): The terminal defined in Claim 29, wherein said location detector detects a current location of said personal communication terminal, using a global positioning system (GPS).

32. (new): The mobile communications system according to claim 1, wherein said use prohibition area comprises a hospital.

33. (new): The mobile communications system according to claim 1, wherein said communication limiter is external to said user terminal.